REPRESENTATION OF WINDOWS OPERATING SYSTEM TERMINOLOGY IN UZBEK

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Abstract: *This article analyzes the terminology used in the Uzbek-language interface of the Windows operating system in terms of lexical-semantic features, orthography and orthoepy (spelling and pronunciation), practical usage, and translatability.*

Keywords: *Windows OS terminology; Uzbek localization; lexical-semantic analysis; orthography; orthoepy; term formation; borrowing & adaptation; calque; transliteration; descriptive translation.*

Windows system terminology has entered Uzbek through a variety of translation methods and is diverse both in its structural composition and in its semantic properties. Studying these terms alongside their Uzbek counterparts—identifying synonym sets, antonymic pairs, cases of polysemy, and meaning-transfer phenomena such as terminological metaphor and metonymy—is of particular scholarly value, because localizing the interface of complex software into a national language requires semantic and cognitive processes that go far beyond the mere selection of simple equivalents.

It should be noted that, following the Uzbek translations of Windows Vista and Windows 7, later releases were not localized. Consequently, many entries in the Microsoft Terminology (Uzbek, Latin) section remained untranslated. Even so, out of 34,289 extracted English lexical units, 10,982 were translated (≈32%), which is noteworthy. Their distribution across 14 semantic fields is as follows:

Chart 1

No.	Semantic field	Count
1	Desktop	55
2	Window management	310
3	File system	324
4	Apps	475
5	Settings	24
6	Accounts & identity	187
7	Security & privacy	228
8	Network & Internet	338
9	Updates	94
10	Power	68
11	Time & language	312
12	Accessibility	14
13	Notifications	65
14	Devices	351

No.	Semantic field	Count
	Total (analyzed set)	2,845

From a linguistic perspective, the subset singled out for analysis comprises 2,845 lexical units—terms that are essential for end users. Thematic grouping of Windows OS terms is a convenient tool for grasping their lexical-semantic properties more clearly. Within each group, shared principles are visible in the origin, structure, and meaning of the terms. The analysis shows that Uzbek Windows terminology is simultaneously aligned with international standards (most terms appear in widely accepted shapes) and adapted to the particularities of the national language (through translation and suitable equivalents).

Before moving on to the semantic relations among Windows OS terms, it is necessary to examine their structure; otherwise, re-working paradigmatic and syntagmatic links, delineating conceptual field boundaries, and distinguishing synonymic/antonymic series becomes methodologically difficult. For this reason, we begin by describing the formal-structural composition of the terms.

Many concepts in the Windows interface are expressed through compounds or multi-word term phrases. Such compounds are predominantly binominal and may be written solid or with a hyphen. For example, the term operatsion tizim ("operating system") consists of two components—operatsion (a borrowing historically connected with English operation and Russian **операционный**) and tizim "system"—together forming the complex term operatsion tizim. Here tizim denotes an ordered set of phenomena and is widely used in the field (e.g., fayl tizimi "file system," axborot tizimi "information system").

Beyond two-part compounds, Windows includes three-, four-, and even longer multi-component term phrases. In particular:

Two-component phrases — 4,024 items: boshqaruv paneli "Control Panel," start menyusi "Start menu," tarmoq adapter "network adapter," vaqt mintaqasi "time zone," maxsus imkoniyatlar "Accessibility," "tab" tugmasi "Tab key," "sparklayn" diagrammasi "sparkline chart."

Three-component phrases — 1,979 items: 0-kun hujumi "zero-day attack," bir tomonlama bog'lama "one-way binding," 100% tarkibli ustun "100% stacked column."

Four-component phrases — 785 items: A dan Z ga "A to Z," +400 GB Microsoft xotirasi "+400 GB Microsoft storage [space]" (includes mixed English components).

Five-component phrases — 312 items: aralash reallikni suratga olish studiyasi "Mixed Reality capture studio," ATP xavfli xatlar haqida hisobot "ATP report on malicious messages," akkumulyator xizmat qilish muddatini uzaytirish "extend battery service life."

Six or more components — 142 items: advanced threat protection xavfli xatlar haqida hisobot "Advanced Threat Protection report on malicious messages," bitta parol bilan bir nechta hisobga kirishga urinish "attempt to sign in to multiple accounts with a single password."

The growth of such long multi-component units is explained by descriptive naming in localization, the preservation of brand layers, post-positional syntax, and the frequent use of numeric or unit identifiers. These often take a mixed term + context shape, where the

core terminological nucleus comprises 2–3 components and the remainder are clarifying context.

Hyphenated forms also occur within term phrases—for example, 3D-muhit "3D environment," 0-kun hujumi "zero-day attack," 12-tugma raskladka "12-key layout." In such cases, normalization follows Uzbek rules for writing separated vs. hyphenated forms. The hyphen consolidates components into a single lexical unit, signaling that they constitute one name. This is particularly relevant when:

- graphical/numerical symbols serve as the main component (3D, 5G, x64, 0, 12, A5);
- letter-based abbreviations are involved (PDF, IP, DLL, USB, Wi-Fi);
- parallel system names appear as the head (e.g., klient-server "client-server," o'qish-yozish "read-write").

The hyphen prevents confusion between morphological affixation and syntactic modification, preserving the structure nucleus + type (e.g., PDF + fayl "file").

A semantic analysis of Windows OS terminology reveals a range of meaning relations. Some terms form synonymic relations within a given sense; others are antonymic; still others are polysemous. Metaphor and metonymy (figurative meaning shifts) are also widespread.

Although terminological practice generally discourages synonymy—favoring a single, stable term per concept for normative precision and communicative efficiency—some parallels persist in Windows terminology. The key reasons are the coexistence of different translation strategies for the same concept, historical layers of borrowing, and user-habituated names.

For example, Recycle Bin in official Uzbek localization often appears as Axlat qutisi; some materials use Savatcha "basket," while Korzina survives in practice via Russian. Thus a synonymic set arises around one concept: axlat qutisi – savatcha – korzina. In scholarly and educational texts, it is advisable to select a single variant and note alternatives parenthetically; this strengthens systemic consistency.

Another example is firewall, where multiple variants run in parallel: fayrvol (a direct phonetic borrowing), brendmauer (a Russian technical-jargon layer), and himoya devori (a calque). In technical prose, fayrvol can function as the terminological nucleus; in public-facing interfaces and instructional materials, himoya devori is often more normative and communicatively transparent.

Around clipboard, variants also appear: almashuv buferi (calque), bufer (international borrowing), almashuv xotirasi (descriptive name), and the unchanged clipboard (borrowing). Because bufer is polysemous in general technical lexicon (network buffer, cache buffer), it may introduce ambiguity; clipboard lacks phonetic adaptation and is morphologically awkward in Uzbek. By contrast, almashuv buferi is preferable on grounds of cognitive clarity (function = temporary storage and transfer), terminological differentiation (vs. network/cache buffers), and morphological integration (e.g., almashuv buferidan joylashtirish "paste from the clipboard").

When discussing semantic relations, the semantic adaptation method naturally comes to the fore. This method selects an Uzbek word or phrase that is functionally and semantically aligned with the foreign term, rather than translating it word-for-word. For

instance, the Windows category historically labeled Accessories (or Windows Tools) would be opaque if rendered literally as Aksessuarlar. Instead, Standart dasturlar "Standard programs," derived from the functions of the small utilities in that category, is a semantically adapted and more intelligible name.

In sum, Uzbek Windows terminology forms a rich, variegated layer in both structural and semantic respects. It integrates with international technical nomenclature while showcasing the word-formation resources and expanding lexical landscape of Uzbek. Although the coordination of terms in the national language raises a number of issues (choosing equivalents, preserving semantic nuances, normative spelling and pronunciation), a consistent linguistic approach and collaboration among specialists are steadily producing solutions. As computer technologies continue to evolve, new concepts will require new terms; a key task for Uzbek linguistics is to admit these into the language in lexically and semantically harmonious, normatively precise forms.

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